

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An anti-scorch composition for flame-retarded flexible polyurethane foams, comprising ~~[in combination, one or more antioxidant agents together with one or more salt(s) of an organic acid]~~ **at least one antioxidant agent, an epoxy compound, and at least one organic phosphite alone or in combination with at least one metal salt of a monocarboxylic or dicarboxylic acid.**
2. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein said organic acid is selected from among saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or aromatic ~~[mono- or di-carboxylated acids]~~, **and monocarboxylic or dicarboxylic organic acids.**
3. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the **metal in said metal** salt ~~[of the organic acid]~~ is **selected from the group consisting** ~~[a salt]~~ of Ca, Zn, Ba, and Sn.
4. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~[any one of claims 1 to 3]~~ **claim 1**, wherein ~~[the]~~ **said at least one** antioxidant **agent** ~~[agent(s)]~~ is selected from among phenols and amino oxygen scavengers.
5. (Original) A composition according to claim 4, wherein the phenol is a hindered phenol.
6. (Original) A composition according to claim 4, wherein the amino oxygen scavenger is an alkylated diphenylamine.

7. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein ~~[the flame retardant is a halogen-containing flame retardant]~~ **said at least one antioxidant agent comprises a mixture of hindered phenol and an alkylated diphenylamine.**
  
8. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, ~~[7, wherein the flame retardant is tribromoneopentyl alcohol]~~ **wherein said flame-retarded foams are retarded with an aliphatic or aromatic, phosphorus-based, flame retardant (FR).**
  
9. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~[any one of claims 1-8]~~ **claim 1, wherein said flame-retarded foams are retarded with a halogen-containing flame retardant.** ~~[further comprising an epoxy compound]~~
  
10. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1 ~~[9, wherein the epoxy compound is selected from among diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A and its derivatives]~~ **wherein said flame-retarded foams are retarded with an aliphatic or aromatic, brominated or chlorinated, FR.**
  
11. (Currently Amended) A ~~[method for preventing or diminishing scorch in a flame-retarded flexible polyurethane foam, comprising adding to the polyurethane composition, prior to foaming, one or more antioxidant agents, together with one or more salt(s) of an organic acid]~~ **composition according to claim 1, wherein said flame-retarded foams are retarded with a FR selected from the group consisting of tribromoneopentyl alcohol, tris(2-chloroisopropyl) phosphate, tris(dichloropropyl) phosphate, chlorinated alkyl phosphate ester, halogenated aryl**

esters/aromatic phosphate blend, pentabromobenzyl alkyl ethers, and brominated epoxy.

12. (Currently Amended) A ~~[method according to claim 11, wherein the organic acid is selected from among saturated, aliphatic or aromatic mono or di-carboxylated acids]~~ composition according to claim 1, wherein said epoxy compound is selected from among diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A and its derivatives.
13. (Currently Amended) A ~~[method according to claim 12, wherein the salt of the organic acid is a salt of Ca, Zn, Ba or Sn]~~ composition according to claim 1, wherein said organic phosphite is selected from among tris(alkylphenyl) phosphites, trialkyl phosphites, dialkyl phenyl phosphites, triphenyl phosphites, and alkyl diphenyl phosphites.
14. (Currently Amended) A method ~~[according to claims 11 to 13, wherein the antioxidant agent(s) is selected from among phenols and amino oxygen scavengers]~~ for preventing or diminishing scorch in a flame-retarded flexible polyurethane foam, comprising adding to the polyurethane composition, prior to foaming, at least one antioxidant agent, an epoxy compound, and organic phosphites alone or in combination with at least one metal salt of a monocarboxylic or dicarboxylic acid.
15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein the ~~[phenol is a hindered phenol]~~ organic acid is selected from among saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or aromatic, monocarboxylic or dicarboxylic organic acids.
16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein the ~~[amino oxygen scavenger is an alkylated diphenylamine]~~ metal

in said metal salt is selected from the group consisting of Ca, Zn, Ba or Sn.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [11, wherein the flame retardant is a halogen-containing flame retardant] 14, wherein said at least one antioxidant agent is selected from among phenols and amino oxygen scavengers.
18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [17, wherein flame retardant is tribromoneopentyl alcohol] 14, wherein said phenol is a hindered phenol.
19. (Currently Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 11 to 18, further comprising adding an epoxy compound] claim 14, wherein said amino oxygen scavenger is an alkylated diphenylamine.
20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [19, wherein the epoxy compound is selected from among diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A and its derivatives] 14, wherein said at least one antioxidant agent comprises a mixture of hindered phenol and an alkylated diphenylamine.
21. (Currently Amended) A method [for preventing or diminishing scorch in a flame-retarded flexible polyurethane foam, substantially as described and illustrated] according to claim 14, wherein said flame-retarded foam is retarded with an aliphatic or aromatic, phosphorus-based, flame retardant FR).
22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein said flame-retarded foam is retarded with a halogen-

containing flame retardant. [~~An anti-scorch composition for flame-retarded flexible polyurethane foams, essentially as described and illustrated and with particular reference to the examples]~~

23. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said flame-retarded foam is retarded with a brominated or chlorinated, aliphatic or aromatic, FR.
24. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said flame-retarded foam is retarded with a FR selected from the group consisting of tribromoneopentyl alcohol, tris(2-chloroisopropyl) phosphate, tris(dichloropropyl) phosphate, chlorinated alkylphosphate ester, halogenated aryl esters/aromatic phosphate blend, pentabromobenzyl alkyl ethers, and brominated epoxy.
25. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said epoxy compound is selected from among diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A and its derivatives.
26. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said organic phosphite is selected from among tris(alkylphenyl) phosphites, trialkyl phosphites, dialkyl phenyl phosphates, triphenyl phosphites, and alkyl diphenyl phosphites.